

BISHOP AUCKLAND  
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

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**REPORT**  
OF THE  
**MEDICAL OFFICER**  
OF  
**HEALTH**  
FOR  
**1962**

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# BISHOP AUCKLAND URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

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*Chairman of Council :*  
Councillor J. GORDON, J.P.

*Chairman of Health Committee :*  
Alderman J. R. S. MIDDLEWOOD, O.B.E., J.P., D.L.

*Councillors :*

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		Mrs. H. Wilson.

*Clerk of the Council :* J. R. PASSEY, LL.B., L.A.M.T.P.I.

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## Health Department Staff

*Medical Officer of Health :*

J. M. HEGARTY, M.B., B.C.H., B.A.O., D.P.H.  
Part-time Medical Officer for the Urban District.  
Assistant County (No. 9 Area) Medical Officer.

*Chief Public Health Inspector and Cleansing Officer :*

R. SNOWDON, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.I.P.H.H., M.R.S.H.,  
M.INST.P.C., I.S.A.A. (Dip.)

*Assistant Public Health Inspector :*

E. YOUNG, M.A.P.H.I.

*Additional Public Health Inspector :*

M. COSGROVE, M.A.P.H.I. (Resigned 30th November, 1962).

*Clerk :* T. K. CROSBY.

*Shorthand Typist :* MISS A. DUNN.

## Annual Report for 1962

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Mr. Chairman, Lady and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting to you the Annual Report on the health and sanitary circumstances of your district for 1962.

Vital statistics afford a means of comparison between the health of a district in different years and with the rest of the country. The rates for your district compare very favourably with those of the previous year and with the country as a whole—with the exception of that for Infant Mortality.

The birth rate is higher and the death rate lower than in 1961. There was a total of 432 deaths. Well over half of these (238) were over 70 years. Of these 238 deaths, 138 died aged between 70–80 ; 89 between 80–90 and 11 were over 90 years of age.

Cancer of all parts of the body showed an increase over 1961. The increase was mainly due to cancer of the lungs which has almost doubled—15 in 1962 (11 Males, 4 Females) ; 8 in 1961 (7 Males, 1 Female). It is still considered there is a strong causitive link between cigarette smoking and lung cancer.

There were fewer deaths due to heart and circulatory diseases—one death less due to pneumonia than in 1961 and 3 less due to bronchitis.

There was one maternal death in a mother aged 40 years, due to pulmonary embolism which was due to deep vein thrombosis of both legs. She had had a stormy passage after a Caesarean birth, and had been discharged from hospital four days previously.

There were 39 cases of puerperal pyrexia notified, but in not one of these was there any specific infective cause discovered.

The Infantile Mortality Rate is very much higher than last year. There were 27 deaths as against 18 in 1961. Of these 13 died before reaching 24 hours (three of these deaths were accounted for by a triple pregnancy) ; three before the age of 1 week ; 5 before 1 month ; 2 died at four months ; 2 at five months ; 1 at seven months and 1 at ten months.

Of these 27 deaths, 13 died from prematurity ; 3 from abnormalities ; 3 from congenital heart conditions ; 3 from infection ; 2 from asphyxia due to inhalation of vomit ; 1 to Rhesus incompatibility ; 1 to intra cranial haemorrhage due to precipitate labour and 1 from tubercular meningitis. Again of these 27 deaths, 23 died in hospital where all attention that was possible would be given to them. Of the four who died at home, 2 died from abnormalities ; 1 from infection and 1 from the accident of inhalation of vomit.

Notification of infectious diseases was the lowest on record since 1944. The district has been completely free from dysentery during the year.

There has not been a case of Diphtheria or Poliomyelitis notified in the district. The last notification of Diphtheria was in 1956 and the last Poliomyelitis in 1959, but the latter patient was not a resident of this area.

Notifications of pulmonary tuberculosis fell to 15 from 20 in 1961. Non-pulmonary was 1 as against 7 last year.

Details of the Mass Miniature Radiography Unit's visit are given later in the report. Attendances were very poor although last year's figure was exceeded by 34. No new cases of tuberculosis were found but 70 other important conditions were discovered.

B.C.G. Vaccination against tuberculosis was carried out in the schools, the age limit being lowered to 12 this year. The response was again very good. Figures are quoted later in the report. I would again like to acknowledge the excellent co-operation afforded by Head-Teachers in all the schools visited.

The introduction of vaccination against poliomyelitis by the oral method was commenced in April. This was a great advance on the injections. It gives better results as well as being more acceptable to children and indeed to adults too. Vaccinations were carried out at all schools and open sessions were held in the Town Hall.

In January, a smallpox contact was reported from a factory. The man's family, friends and neighbours were immediately vaccinated. About 650 people at the factory were also vaccinated as were the Urban District Council personnel and their families. Quite a number of other people who were going into or through infected areas and children returning to schools had vaccinations carried out at the Health Department at their own request.

An Old Peoples' Welfare Committee was started by the Council towards the end of 1961, but really only got into its stride in 1962. It was formed with a view to home visiting for the lonely and the aged. It is functioning satisfactorily and the visiting is much appreciated by many old people.

During the year old people were visited on request from them or their relatives and dealt with as necessary.

Details of the home-help service are given later in the report.

I would once again like to acknowledge the courtesy and consideration shown to me by my Council and to thank the staff of the Health Department for another year's efficient work.

### **Area and Social Conditions.**

The area of the district is 9,336 acres. The estimated population in mid-1962 was 35,410, an increase of 10 on the previous year's estimate.

The rateable value at the end of 1962 was £348,333 and the product of a penny rate £1,349.

The number of houses according to the Council's rate book was, at the end of 1962, 11,495.

### **Vital Statistics.**

In the following extracts from the vital statistics of the district, the corrected figures as supplied by the Registrar General have been used and the rates quoted are based on the above-mentioned estimated population.

Live Births	Total	Males	Females
LEGITIMATE	625	303	322
ILLEGITIMATE	41	26	15
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>666</b>	<b>329</b>	<b>337</b>

Comparability Factors : Births 0.96 ; Deaths 1.16 ; Standard Birth Rate 18.06. The corresponding rate for England and Wales is 18.0.

### **Births.**

Rate per 1,000 live and still births ; standard 15.60.

The total number of births was 677 : 336 Males and 341 Females.

**Live Births.** Total 666. Males 329. Females 337.

Rate per 1,000 population 18.06.

Illegitimate live births (per cent of total live births).

26 Males. 15 Females. 6.16%.

### **Still Births.**

Stillbirths.	Total	Males	Females
LEGITIMATE	.. 9	6	3
ILLEGITIMATE	.. 2	1	1
	<hr/> TOTAL 11	<hr/> 7	<hr/> 4

Rate per 1,000 total live and still births 15.60.

For England and Wales the rate was 18.1.

Total live and still births 677. Males 336. Females 341.

Infant deaths (deaths under 1 year) 27. Males 11. Females 16.

### **Infant Mortality Rates.**

Total infant deaths per 1,000 total live births. 47.03.

Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births. 50.12.

Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births. Nil.

### **Neo-Natal Mortality Rate.**

Deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births. 34.83

Legitimate. Males 7. Females 13.

Illegitimate. Males 0. Females 0.

### **Early Neo-Natal Mortality Rate.**

Deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births. 26.13

Legitimate. Males 3. Females 12.

Illegitimate. Males 0. Females 0.

### **Perinatal Mortality Rate.**

Still births and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and still births. 45.23

### **Maternal Mortality (including abortion).**

Number of deaths : 1. Rate per 1,000 live and still births : 1.74.

### **Deaths.**

After correction for outwardly and inwardly transferable deaths a total of 432 (223 males and 209 females) deaths of residents were recorded during the year, giving a standard death rate of 14.16 per 1,000 of the estimated population. The death rate for England and Wales as a whole in 1962 was 11.9. Cardio-vascular diseases accounted for 162 of the total deaths.

The following table gives the number of deaths recorded from the various causes during the year.

CAUSES OF DEATH	Males	Females	Total
Lung Cancer .. .. ..	11	4	15
Other Cancers .. .. ..	24	34	58
Leukaemia .. .. ..	1	2	3
Vascular lesions of nervous system	41	36	77
Coronary disease, angina ..	56	30	86
Hypertension with heart disease	3	8	11
Other heart disease .. ..	13	29	42
Other circulatory diseases .. ..	8	15	23
Pneumonia .. .. ..	10	6	16
Bronchitis .. .. ..	14	2	16
Other respiratory diseases .. ..	—	2	2
Gastric or duodenal ulcer .. ..	1	1	2
Gastritis and enteritis .. ..	2	—	2
Nephritis and nephrosis .. ..	3	3	6
Diabetes .. .. ..	—	8	8
Hyperplasia of Prostate .. ..	1	—	1
Congenital malformations .. ..	4	5	9
Motor vehicle accidents .. ..	—	1	1
All other accidents .. ..	8	5	13
Suicide .. .. ..	5	—	5
Tuberculosis (all forms) .. ..	5	1	6
Influenza .. .. ..	—	—	—
Other infections .. .. ..	—	1	1
Pregnancy, childbirth .. .. ..	—	1	1
Meningococcal infection .. ..	—	—	—
Syphilitic diseases .. ..	1	1	2
All other causes than those specified	12	14	26
Homicide and operations of war	—	—	—
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>223</b>	<b>209</b>	<b>432</b>

The above information is based on information supplied by the Registrar General.

## INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The following table shows the number of cases notified and the deaths from the various infectious diseases (excluding tuberculosis) which occurred during 1962.

Disease	Total Deaths	Cases admitted to Hospital	Total number after corrected diagnosis	Total cases notified
Meningococcal Infection	-	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever .. ..	16	1	9	9
Smallpox .. ..	-	-	-	-
Diphtheria .. ..	-	-	-	-
Enteric Fever .. ..	-	-	-	-
Pneumonia .. ..	4	24	24	24
Puerperal Pyrexia ..	39	39	39	39
Measles .. ..	1	127	127	127
Whooping Cough ..	-	3	3	3
Erysipelas .. ..	-	-	-	-
Dysentery .. ..	-	-	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis ..	1	-	-	-
Acute Encephalitis ..	1	1	1	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	-	1	1	1
Food Poisoning ..	-	2	2	2
	46	207	207	207
	17			

This is the lowest number notified since 1944

## TUBERCULOSIS

The following table shows in arrangement by age groups, the number of new cases notified and of deaths from tuberculosis occurring in the district during the year.

AGE PERIODS	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0	—	—	—	—	—	—	1*	—
1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15	1	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
25	4	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
35	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
45	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
55	2	—	—	—	2†	—	—	—
65 and over	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
1962	9	6	1	—	4	—	1	—
1961	12	8	4	3	2	3	—	—
1960	3	4	3	1	2	2	—	—
1959	9	12	3	3	3	1	—	—
1958	16	8	4	1	3	2	2	—
1957	17	9	—	2	2	2	—	—
1956	5	14	2	2	1	1	—	—
1955	15	9	1	—	3	3	1	—
1954	13	7	2	1	7	5	—	—
1953	15	19	2	2	6	6	—	1

\* Not notified prior to death.

† 1 Male (64) Not notified prior to death.

On 26th January, 1962, the House Letting Sub-Committee resolved that four cases of Tuberculosis were to be rehoused every six months.

Due to the number of houses available, only three such families were re-housed during the year.

## Mass Miniature Radiography.

		Male	Female	Total
Attendances	..	736	1272	2008
Recalled	..	32	38	70
Referred to Chest Clinic		7	4	11

Of the numbers referred to the Chest Clinic :

None were found to be suffering from active tuberculosis.

0 persons required occasional supervision.

16 had acquired heart conditions.

3 were suffering from Phneumoconiosis.

50 were listed under other conditions.

1 failed to attend for a clinical examination.

## WATER

From 1st April, the whole district has been supplied by the Durham County Water Board, which takes its own samples for bacteriological examination. No adverse reports were received.

## SEWAGE DISPOSAL

The situation at the Vinovium Sewage Disposal Works is substantially the same.

Investigations into the various methods of de-watering sludge have resulted in a scheme being drawn up for the conditioning of sludge by heat treatment prior to pressing.

The liquid cold digested sludge has proved a very successful fertilizer—particularly for grassland, and a considerable increase in the amounts used in this manner is anticipated during the next year. The aerial nuisance is still considerable due to the air drying of crude sludge which is now being produced in quantities far exceeding the original cold digestion capacity. Further the tank effluents discharged to the bacteria beds contain a high percentage of suspended solids owing to the restricted sludge drying capacity and the consequent inability to cleanse the settling tanks as often as required.

The suspended solids being discharged in the final effluent to the river are still frequently in excess of the River Board's standard of 30 parts per million and no improvement can be expected until the proposed extensions are completed : a fact which can be readily understood when one realises that although primary settling and biological treatments were extended in 1951 no further sludge treatment capacity has been provided since 1939, during which time well over 2,300 houses have been built and about 3,000 conversions have been carried out.

The Vinovium works also treats sewage from Spennymoor and Shildon Urban Districts, and Barnard Castle Rural District.

The sewage works at Witton Park and Newfield are in much the same position as regards sludge treatment facilities.

## SEWERAGE

The system continues to operate reasonably well in spite of the entrance of large amounts of grit. Conversion schemes have been approved for some 300 properties. This will deal with nearly all the houses which have sufficient life to warrant conversion.

## SPECIAL HEALTH SERVICES

### (a) Immunisation against Diphtheria.

The following children were treated during the year in their homes, doctors' surgeries or County clinics :

346 children received primary full courses of immunisation treatment.

156 children received 'booster' doses, either singly or in combination.

### (b) Whooping Cough.

343 children were vaccinated against Whooping Cough, either singly or in combination.

The administration of combined Whooping Cough and Diphtheria injections has naturally lowered the numbers of single injections against each disease alone.

77 'booster' doses were administered.

### (c) Smallpox Vaccination.

1,213 primary vaccinations and 691 re-vaccinations were carried out during the year.

### (d) Poliomyelitis Vaccination.

The number of vaccinations carried out during the year was as follows :

101 received first vaccinations (Oral).

179 received second vaccinations (Oral).

2,746 received third vaccinations (Oral).

168 received one Oral after two injections.

437 received second injections.

574 received third injections.

47 received a fourth injection.

79 received one Oral after three Salk doses.

(e) **B.C.G. Vaccinations.**

782 children were Heaf tested ; 82 children were positive. 648 children were negative ; 647 children were vaccinated.

These figures apply to children attending schools in the Bishop Auckland Urban District.

Included in the notification of Pulmonary Tuberculosis was one teenager whose mother had previously refused B.C.G. vaccination for her.

(f) **Home Help Service.**

The services of a Home Help were supplied to 224 households.

## MEAT INSPECTION

Again, a 100% inspection of all animals slaughtered within the Urban District was carried out during the course of 1,168 visits. The carcases and organs of 11,218 animals were inspected. Tuberculosis was found only in one beast as against three in 1961 and in 80 pigs against 146 in 1961.

The percentage of cattle affected by this disease is now almost negligible as can be seen by :—

	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962
Percentage Cattle affected.	6.46	5.33	3.39	1.9	0.33	0.07	0.04
Percentage Cows affected.	8.36	11.12	4.97	3.57	0.68	0.34	—

There was a slight increase of cysticercosis in 1962—the number of cases detected was 35 in comparison with 33 in 1961 and 15 in 1960.

The percentage condemned due to diseases other than cysticercosis and tuberculosis fell from 45.08 to 38.48 in cattle and 36.15 to 24.77 in cows. As in previous years the high proportion of parasitic livers accounted mainly for these percentages.

	Cattle	Cows	Calves	Sheep	Pigs
Number Slaughtered ..	2550	557	55	4613	3443
Number Inspected ..	2550	557	55	4613	3443
<b>TUBERCULOSIS</b>					
Whole carcases condemned	—	—	—	—	—
Part carcases condemned	1	—	—	—	80
Percentage condemned ..	0.04	—	—	—	2.32
<b>CYSTICERCOSIS</b>					
Whole carcases condemned	—	—	—	—	—
Part carcases condemned	33	2	—	—	—
Percentage condemned ..	1.29	0.36	—	—	—
Number of carcases subject to refrigeration ..	—	—	—	—	—
<b>OTHER DISEASES</b>					
Whole carcases condemned	—	—	—	—	1
Part carcases condemned	981	138	—	125	198
Percentage condemned ..	38.48	24.77	—	2.71	5.78

Following the implementation of the slaughterhouse regulations, the number of slaughterhouses in operation was reduced from seven to four. Two are in the town, and one in Witton Park and the other in Etherley Dene.

Licences were issued to nineteen persons allowing them to slaughter or stun animals.

### VOLUNTARY SURRENDER OF FOOD

The following is the quantity of foodstuffs found unfit and voluntarily surrendered :

525 tins Meat.	421 tins Vegetables.
570 tins Fruit.	38 tins Fish.
60 tins Rice.	129 tins Soup.
47 tins Milk Pudding.	1 tin Spaghetti.
38 tins Milk.	10 tins Cream.
1 tin Chicken.	6 tins Sago.

## ICE CREAM

Efficiency of ice cream plant cleansing is determined by the results from sampling the product.

44 samples were taken, and these were classified by the Newcastle Public Health Laboratory and are shown in relation to previous years.

	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	Total
Grade 1.	8	3	2	11	24	48
Grade 2.	4	2	6	4	8	24
Grade 3.	6	1	3	12	4	26
Grade 4.	12	1	4	11	8	36
TOTAL	<u>30</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>38</u>	<u>44</u>	<u>134</u>

The above figures show a marked improvement in classification, there being approximately 73% of all samples graded 1 or 2. This not only indicates the necessity for continual sampling but shows the gradual improvement of the ice cream sold over the past five years, e.g. in 1958 only 40% of samples were graded 1 or 2.

## FACTORIES

### 1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to Health

PREMISES (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of		Occupiers Pros- ecuted (5)
		Inspec- tions (3)	Written Notices (4)	
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities .. .. .. .. ..	19	3	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority .. .. .. .. ..	110	9	—	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority (excluding out-workers premises) .. .. .. .. ..	10	—	—	—
<b>Total ..</b>	<b>139</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>

## 2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found.

(If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions they are reckoned as two, three or more 'cases')

PARTICULARS (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found			Number of cases in which processes were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspector (4)	
Want of Cleanliness (S.1) ..	..	..	4	4
Overcrowding (S.2) ..	..	..	..	..
Unreasonable Temperature (S.3) ..	..	..	..	..
Inadequate Ventilation (S.4) ..	..	..	..	..
Ineffective Drainage (S.6) ..	..	..	..	..
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)				
(a) Insufficient ..	..	..	..	..
(b) Unsuitable or Defective ..	..	..	..	..
(c) Not Separate for Sexes ..	..	..	..	..
Other Offences against Act ..	..	..	..	..
TOTALS	4	4	4	4

## HOUSING

### (a) Clearance Areas.

In 1962 nine Clearance Areas were submitted to the Council for subsequent submission to the Minister of Housing and Local Government for confirmation. These areas were :

Area.	Number of Houses
Quarry Houses, Westerton	8
Low King Street, Witton Park	68
Gurney Valley (No. 1)	21
Gurney Valley (No. 2)	20
Park View Terrace (No. 1), New Coundon	5
Park View Terrace (No. 2), New Coundon	5
Auckland Road, South Church	7
Barker Terrace, Bishop Auckland	11
South Terrace, Bishop Auckland	40

A TOTAL OF 185 HOUSES

### (b) Individual Orders.

Orders were made against the following houses during the year.  
House. Order.

3, Foundry Yard, South Church.	..	Closing.
11, Front Street, Etherley Dene	..	Closing.
19, Gurlish East, Coundon	..	Closing.
20, Gurlish East, Coundon	..	Closing.
63, Park Road, Witton Park	..	Closing.
63, Low Albion Street, Witton Park	..	Closing.
3, Railway Cottage, Coundon Grange	..	Closing.
2, Gaunless Farm Cottage, St. Helen's	..	Closing.
4, Gaunless Farm Cottage, St. Helen's	..	Closing.
3, Victoria Lane, Coundon	..	Closing.
4, Victoria Lane, Coundon	..	Demolition.
9, Lambs Row, Coundon	..	Demolition.
10, Lambs Row, Coundon	..	Demolition.
2, Collingwood Street, Coundon	..	Closing.
7, Flintoff Street, Bishop Auckland	..	Demolition.
8, Flintoff Street, Bishop Auckland	..	Demolition
13, High Street, Eldon Lane	..	Demolition.
14, High Street, Eldon Lane	..	Demolition.
15, High Street, Eldon Lane	..	Demolition.

A TOTAL OF 19 HOUSES

Altogether 204 houses were represented either collectively or individually as being unfit for human habitation.

(c) **General.**

1. WORK ON HOUSES UNDER PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936.			
Houses found to be defective in repair .. .. ..	152		
Number of Informal Notices served .. .. ..	152		
Number of Formal Notices served .. .. ..	38		
Houses rendered free from nuisances complained of ..	138		
2. HOUSES CAPABLE OF REPAIR—HOUSING ACT, 1957.			
No notice served in 1962.			
3. HOUSES INCAPABLE OF REPAIR—HOUSING ACT, 1957.			
Representation to Health Committee .. .. ..	27		
Demolition Orders made .. .. ..	8		
Closing Orders made .. .. ..	11		
Undertakings accepted .. .. ..	—		
4. RENT ACT.			
(i) Applications for Certificate of Disrepair .. .. ..	1		
Decision to issue Certificate in respect of some but not all defects .. .. ..	1		
Number of Undertakings given by Landlords ..	1		
Number of Certificates issued .. .. ..	—		
(ii) Number of applications for Cancellation of Certificate .. .. ..	4		
Number of Certificates cancelled .. .. ..	—		

5. STANDARD GRANTS.

The Council's Engineer and Surveyor deals with all applications which are granted subject to a Certificate of Fitness from the Chief Public Health Inspector.

(a) Number of applications submitted in 1962 to Local Authority .. .. .. ..	33
(b) Number of applications rejected by Local Authority ..	1
(c) Total number of applications approved since inception	233
(d) Total number of grants paid since inception .. ..	194

6. DISCRETIONARY GRANTS.

Procedure is the same as for the Standard Grants.

(a) Number of applications submitted for 1962 to Local Authority .. .. .. ..	62
(b) Number of applications rejected by Local Authority ..	1
(c) Total number of applications approved since inception	57
(d) Total number of grants paid since inception .. ..	12

7. HOUSES DEMOLISHED.

	Houses Demol'sed or Closed	Re-housing	
		Persons	Families
IN CLEARANCE AREAS.			
Houses unfit for human habitation .. ..	79	120	36
NOT IN CLEARANCE AREAS.			
Action under Section 17 (1) Housing Act, 1957 ..	7	25	7
UNFIT HOUSES CLOSED.			
Action under Sections 16 (4) and 17 (1) Housing Act, 1957 .. ..	18	59	16
TOTAL ..	104	204	59

8. HOUSES WHICH WERE UNFIT BUT REMEDIED IN 1962.

		By Owner	By Local Authority
PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936.			
(a) After informal action by Local Authority .. .. ..	70	—	—
(b) After formal action by Local Authority .. .. ..	68	—	—
HOUSING ACT, 1957.			
(a) After informal action by Local Authority .. .. ..	—	—	—
(b) After formal action by Local Authority .. .. ..	—	—	—
TOTAL ..	138	—	—

9. INSPECTIONS.

(a) Under Public Health, Housing and Rent Acts	2,208
(b) Under House Purchase and Housing Act	258
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	TOTAL 2,466
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10. NEW HOUSES.

In 1962 a total of 129 new houses or flats were provided in the Urban District—an increase of 49 on 1961.

	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962
Built by Council ..	76	124	58	84	61	63
Built by Private Enterprise	33	25	31	30	18	56
Built by						
Durham County Council	7	5	15	—	—	8
Converted into flats ..	3	2	3	—	—	2
Converted from other						
premises ..	—	1	—	—	1	—
TOTALS	119	157	107	114	80	129
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

Housing Statistics.

1. NUMBER ON WAITING LISTS AS AT 31ST DECEMBER, 1962.

	Tenants	Sub-Tenants	Total
(a) General Waiting List ..	377	66	443
(b) Aged Persons Waiting List	218	18	236
TOTALS	595	84	679
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

2. NUMBER OF FAMILIES RE-HOUSED.

(a) In New Dwellings.

Slum Clearance ..	..	..	33
Key Workers ..	..	..	2
Aged Persons List ..	..	..	—
General List ..	..	..	26
			—
			61

(b) IN RE-LETS OF EXISTING ACCOMMODATION.

Slum Clearnace ..	..	..	26
Key Workers ..	..	..	13
Aged Persons' List ..	..	..	15
General List ..	..	..	53
			—
			107

TOTAL FAMILIES RE-HOUSED	168
	<hr/>

3. RE-HOUSING—FAMILIES SUFFERING FROM TUBERCULOSIS.

Although the Council decided in February to re-house four cases every six months—only three families were in fact re-housed in 1962.

4. OVERCROWDED FAMILIES.

Of the total of 168 families re-housed during the year 1st January, 1962 to 31st December, 1962 the following were living in overcrowded conditions :

Points Scheme—i.e. lack of adequate bedroom accommodation—103, of which 77 were statutorily overcrowded.

GENERAL PUBLIC HEALTH SUMMARY

PARTICULARS	Number of Inspections	Number of Informal Notices Served	Number of Formal Notices Served	Defects Remedied after Notice
Public Health and Housing Acts	2124	110	26	96
Defective Sanitary Conveniences	20	12	3	12
Drainage	188	10	6	9
Water Supply	8	5	3	5
Food Premises	126	4	—	4
Shops Act	9	—	—	—
Slaughterhouses	1168	—	—	—
Movable Dwellings	42	—	—	—
Keeping of Animals	3	—	6	6
Insanitary Ashpits	—	—	1	2
Offensive Accumulations	—	—	4	4
Smoke Nuisances	—	—	—	—
Pet Animals Act	—	—	3	—
Market	—	—	60	—
Licensing Act	—	—	32	—
Conversions	—	—	106	—
Miscellaneous	—	—	707	—

## CONVERSIONS TO WATER CARRIAGE

During the year a total of 201 conservancy closets were converted to the water carriage system. At the end of 1962, due to conversions, the elimination of sanitary conveniences by demolition of houses, or the provision of water closets by the erection of new houses or improvement of older houses, the various types of sanitary conveniences in the Urban District were as follows :

Water Closets .. .. ..	12,244
Ashclosets .. .. ..	1,012
Ashpits and Privies .. .. ..	98

Over the period of nine years commencing 1954, a total of 1,966 conversions have been carried out as shown in the following comparative table :

Year	CONVERSIONS		Total
	Owners	Local Authority	
1954	110	317	427
1955	117	34	151
1956	115	232	347
1957	57	188	245
1958	70	271	341
1959	61	92	153
1960	59	—	59
1961	42	—	42
1962	40	161	201
TOTALS	671	1,295	1,966

## RODENT CONTROL

### **Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.**

The work of rodent control is carried out by a full-time Rodent Operator, who was until his retirement—enforced by illness, Mr. H. Robb. He was succeeded late in the year by Mr. A. Jones.

Rodent control service is free to householders but a charge of 10/-d. per hour (including materials and travelling expenses) is made for business premises.

During the year 107 requests for treatment were received, 24 of which came from business premises, resulting in an income of £64.6.7d.

The following table shows the work carried out in 1962.

	TYPE OF PROPERTY			AGRI-CULTURAL (5)
	Local Authority (1)	Non-AGRICULTURAL Dwelling Houses (2)	All Other Premises (3)	
1. Number of properties in Local Authority's district ...	61	11,108	2,264	13,433
2. Total number of properties inspected as a result of notification ... ... ... ... ...	10	115	44	169
Number of such properties found to be infested by : Common Rat. Major ... ... ... ... Minor ... ... ... ... House Mouse. Major ... ... ... ... Minor ... ... ... ...	10 - - -	3 93 1 16	11 21 - 12	24 114 1 28
3. Total number of properties inspected in the course of survey under the Act Number of such properties found to be infested by : Common Rat. Major ... ... ... ... Minor ... ... ... ... House Mouse. Major ... ... ... ... Minor ... ... ... ...	2 - - -	10 - 8 -	10 - 9 9	22 1 8 9
4. Total number of properties otherwise inspected Number of such properties found to be infested by : Common Rat. Major ... ... ... ... Minor ... ... ... ... House Mouse. Major ... ... ... ... Minor ... ... ... ...	- - - -	1 - 1 -	3 1 2 2	4 1 1 2
5. Total Inspections carried out, including re-inspections ...	63	385	191	641
6. Number of infested properties treated by the Local Authority ... ... ... ...	11	122	56	189
7. Total treatments carried out, including re-treatments ...	11	134	60	205
8. Number of 'Block' control schemes carried out ...	1	-	-	-
9. Total treatments are less than half of previous year, due partly to us not having a Rodent Operator for four months.				

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS' REPORT  
ON  
PUBLIC CLEANSING

Again I have pleasure in submitting this report on the work carried out by the personnel of the Cleansing Department during 1962, and in doing so wish to record my appreciation of the efforts of all concerned.

**House Refuse—Collection and Disposal.**

The weekly service to premises, and in some cases more frequent, continues.

During the year 8,852 loads of house refuse and 579 loads of trade refuse were collected. Collectively these figures show a decrease of 373 loads on 1961. The density, however, remains the same, i.e. 6.3 cwts. per cubic yard. Approximately two per cent of all loads are weighed and so give an indicated weight of 18,120 tons over the year.

**Refuse Tips.**

Again three refuse tips were in use—at Witton Park, Newfield, and the main one where 90 per cent of the refuse is tipped—Gurney Valley.

Concern was felt as to the rapidity at which the Gurney Valley 'void' was being filled, and it was decided to impose some measure of control.

The tip was fenced with concrete posts and barbed wire, with a gate at the sole remaining entrance.

It was decided to charge for the disposal of private refuse at the rate of 7/6d. per load. Contractors now collect tickets at the Treasurer's Office and present one per load to the Gateman who is employed Monday to Friday from 1.30 p.m. to 3.30 p.m.

These measures have had the effect of reducing the number of loads of private refuse on the tip by approximately 80%.

During the year all three tips were systematically treated against rodents.

**Salvage.**

656 loads of salvage giving an indicated weight of 211 tons were collected, and of this quantity about 190 tons were suitable for baling.

Following the installation in 1961 of a 3 h.p. mechanical baling press arrangements were made to increase the quantity of salvage collected and baled. One trailer was enlarged and another built. Unfortunately, the Thames Board Mills, in May of 1962 decided to restrict intake and consequently instead of being able to send unlimited quantities we were restricted to 9 tons of Mixed Papers and 2 tons of fibreboard each month. There was no quota at all for newspapers.

Although restricted ourselves we could not restrict collections from shops, etc., particularly after inducing them to save salvage and getting them used to a regular collection. All paper baled in excess of the quota is stored and at the end of the year there was in stock approximately 30 tons.

### Despatch of Salvage

Date	No. of Bales	Type of Paper	Tons	Cwts.	Qrs.
15/1/62	66	Mixed .. ..	5	1	0
	74	Fibreboard .. ..	5	1	0
30/1/62	71	Mixed .. ..	5	5	0
	76	Fibreboard .. ..	4	19	0
13/2/62	59	Mixed .. ..	4	7	0
	57	Fibreboard .. ..	4	0	0
28/2/62	47	Mixed .. ..	3	6	0
	46	Fibreboard .. ..	2	18	0
14/3/62	30	Mixed .. ..	2	3	0
	45	Fibreboard .. ..	3	3	0
28/3/62	64	Mixed .. ..	4	4	0
	52	Fibreboard .. ..	4	3	0
	36	Newspapers .. ..	2	13	0
12/4/62	40	Mixed .. ..	3	0	0
	40	Fibreboard .. ..	2	12	0
18/4/62	40	Mixed .. ..	2	19	0
	40	Fibreboard .. ..	2	13	0
1/5/62	40	Mixed .. ..	2	16	0
	40	Fibreboard .. ..	2	16	0
10/5/62	37	Mixed .. ..	2	16	0
	38	Fibreboard .. ..	2	12	0
24/5/62	37	Mixed .. ..	2	15	0
	33	Fibreboard .. ..	2	8	0
5/7/62	120	Mixed .. ..	9	5	0
	30	Fibreboard .. ..	2	2	0
17/7/62	45	Mixed .. ..	3	8	0
	30	Fibreboard .. ..	2	4	0
26/7/62	75	Mixed .. ..	5	14	0
16/8/62	75	Mixed .. ..	6	6	0
6/9/62	35	Mixed .. ..	2	19	0
	30	Fibreboard .. ..	2	4	0
13/9/62	30	Fibreboard .. ..	2	7	0
	36	Mixed .. ..	3	4	0

27/9/62	65	Mixed	..	..	5	9	0
4/10/62	40	Mixed	..	..	3	6	0
	30	Fibreboard		..	2	6	0
11/10/62	75	Mixed	..	..	6	7	0
1/11/62	45	Mixed	..	..	3	10	0
	30	Fibreboard		..	2	18	0
8/11/62	75	Mixed	..	..	5	19	0
30/11/62	45	Mixed	..	..	3	3	0
	30	Fibreboard		..	2	11	0
6/12/62	75	Mixed	..	..	6	5	0
			TOTAL	..	159	17	0

### Paper Tonnage.

	Tons	Cwts.	Ors.
1957	..	40	0
1958	..	51	9
1959	..	73	2
1960	..	168	14
1961	..	170	6
1962	..	159	17

### Trade Refuse.

During the past twelve months 579 loads of trade refuse were collected and disposed of at the refuse tip.

Almost all the loads were collected from premises subject to an agreement for regular collection.

Five requests were made for casual collection of trade waste which yielded an income of £12.10.0d.

### Income.

The income from waste paper, trade refuse and scrap again was the highest ever—being £2,397.0.9d.

Together with the £200 paid each year, since 1958, by a Contractor for shale from Gurney Valley Tip—the income for the years 1957–1962 is £9,541.13.7d.

Year	Paper Sales	Trade Refuse	Scrap	Total
1957	£ 290 12 6	£ 122 7 10	£ 41 15 0	£ 454 15 4
1958	318 3 9	261 1 3	21 14 6	600 19 6
1959	633 7 6	399 16 0	9 0 0	1,042 3 6
1960	1,133 8 0	656 13 0	8 1 0	1,798 2 0
1961	1,128 14 6	1,015 5 0	104 13 0	2,248 12 6
1962	1,359 7 9	1,034 9 0	3 4 0	2,397 0 9
Totals	£4,863 14 0	£3,489 12 1	£188 7 6	£8,541 13 7

## Vehicles.

During 1962 two old vehicles were replaced ; one 19 years old and the other 17 years.

One new vehicle was a Bantam 7 cu. yard " Karrier " Machine which was purchased complete—a departure from previous policy when a part vehicle was purchased, viz. the cab and chassis, and the body built by the Mechanics.

The other new vehicle was a " Karrier " Derby 10 cu. yard Collector, which is exclusively used for the collection of salvage and trade refuse.

All vehicles are greased and washed weekly, and together with regular maintenance ensures that our Cleansing fleet is perhaps the best in the North East—and beyond.

## Staff.

The following table shows time lost due to sickness, absenteeism and holidays in 1962.

Month	Sickness	Absent	Holiday	Total
January ..	35	6	—	41
February ..	109	1	—	110
March ..	54	1	3	58
April ..	60	1	5	66
May ..	88	—	15	103
June ..	41	1	39	81
July ..	37	—	49	86
August ..	27	1	84	112
September ..	22	—	62	84
October ..	45	5	39	89
November ..	11	—	26	37
December ..	3	—	10	13
TOTALS ..	532	16	332	880

Time lost from all causes represented 13% of the working time available.

The following table compares time lost due to sickness in 1962 with the preceding six years.

NUMBER OF DAYS LOST DUE TO SICKNESS							
Month	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962
January ..	41	72	82	5	31	20	35
February ..	73	35	89	56	54	84	109
March ..	37	47	53	37	15	31	54
April ..	20	44	35	54	13	48	60
May ..	24	17	16	47	21	42	88
June ..	35	2	29	7	—	50	41
July ..	47	5	10	5	—	31	37
August ..	57	14	41	21	11	11	27
September ..	28	82	85	46	53	10	22
October ..	43	32	45	14	40	15	45
November ..	15	17	2	—	65	18	11
December ..	35	25	2	43	37	22	3
TOTALS ..	455	392	489	335	340	382	532

Time lost from all causes except holidays was 548 days. This is compared as a percentage with previous years :

	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962
Time Lost %	6.9	6.05	7.63	5.78	5.94	6.3	8.57

R. SNOWDON, M.A.P.H.I., M.INST.P.C.,  
M.R.I.P.H.H., M.R.S.H., I.S.A.A. (Dip.).

*Chief Public Health Inspector and  
Cleansing Officer.*

APPENDIX.

Comparisons in Vital Statistics during the years 1953-1962

VITAL STATISTICS	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962
Crude Birth Rate	17.9	18.3	17.6	17.3	18.6	20.2	16.8	17.6	17.0	18.0
Standard Birth Rate	..	..	..	..	17.8	19.4	..	..	..	..
Crude Death Rate	11.2	11.6	11.0	11.6	11.4	12.5	14.7	12.8	13.7	14.4
Standard Death Rate	..	..	..	..	13.5	..	..	..	..	..
Crude Infant Mortality Rate	21.3	35.1	38.5	30.6	35.1	22.4	24.0	26.2	43.2	35.2
Standard Infant Mortality Rate	..	..	..	..	41.4	..	..	..	..	..

1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962
Pulmonary Cases	34	20	24	19	26	24	21	7	20
Non-Pulmonary Cases	4	3	1	4	2	5	6	4	1

**INFECTIOUS DISEASES — Notifications and Deaths.**  
(*excluding Tuberculosis and Food Poisoning*)

SUMMARY OF DEATHS BY SEX AND AGE GROUPS — 1962

MONTH	Under 1		1-10		10-20		20-30		30-40		40-50		50-60		60-70		70-80		80-90		Over 90		TOTALS		
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	T <sub>a</sub>				
Jan.	1	1	—	—	1	1	—	—	3	—	3	1	7	2	5	10	6	2	1	1	28	18	46		
Feb.	—	1	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	2	—	2	4	4	6	2	5	—	2	10	21	31			
March	2	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	2	3	5	10	2	4	12	4	12	—	1	23	27	50	
April	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	1	6	1	9	2	5	4	—	—	23	10	33		
May	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	3	1	7	7	2	6	—	—	16	14	30		
June	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	1	5	2	1	6	3	2	—	—	15	15	30		
July	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	4	—	4	3	1	4	2	4	—	—	16	12	28	
August	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	6	8	—	5	—	—	8	15	23		
Sept.	1	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	5	2	7	1	4	5	—	2	—	2	18	34	
Oct.	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	1	4	2	8	1	6	3	5	4	—	2	25	41
Nov.	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	2	3	1	3	5	9	8	2	5	—	19	22	41
Dec.	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	3	7	3	6	9	3	4	1	1	21	22	43
TOTALS	11	16	1	2	1	2	—	2	4	1	10	9	34	14	57	28	68	70	34	55	2	9	222	208	430
	27	3	3	3	2	2	5	5	19	48	85	138	89	89	11										

This Table is compiled from Information supplied by the Local Registrar.

J. M. HEGARTY, M.B., B.C.H., B.A.O., D.P.H.,  
Medical Officer of Health.





